

Argyle Lake State Park

Interpretive Program Schedule: June - December 2016

Breakfast and Birding: Pontoon Programs

(Alternating) Fridays - 10:00-11:00 a.m.

(Begins 6/3/16; No Program 7/29/16)

Come enjoy breakfast at the Shanty Shack II on beautiful Lake Argyle before (or lunch afterwards) taking a relaxing pontoon boat ride on the lake. Life jackets, binoculars and field guides will be available or you're welcome to bring your own. Pre-registration is required and space is limited to 6 participants. Please email Bridget.Hinchee@illinois.gov or call (309)776-3422 for more information or to register.

Nature Movies at the Park

Friday, June 3, 2016 - 8:30 -10:00 p.m.

Friday, July 1, 2016 - 8:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Friday, August 12, 2016 - 8:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 9, 2016 - 8:30 -10:00 p.m.

Join us for family-friendly, PBS nature movies outdoors at the park visitor center. For your comfort, bring your own refreshments, chairs, and insect repellent. Movies may be canceled due to inclement weather conditions. Please email or call the park visitor center/office for specific movie selections (309)776-3422.

2016 Paddling Tours of Lake Argyle

Saturday, June 4th - 10am & 1pm

Saturday, July 2nd - 10am & 1pm

Saturday, August 13th - 10am & 1pm

Saturday, September 10th - 10am & 1pm

Saturday, October 8th - 10am & 1pm

Join us for a morning or afternoon of paddling and enjoying nature on beautiful Lake Argyle. Kayaks, paddle boards, paddles, and life jackets are being provided by the Friends of Argyle. Ten kayaks and four paddle boards are available, so space is limited to the first 14 people to register for each tour. Tours are being offered two times each day and each program will be about 2 hours. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Meet at the parking area near the concession for this program. Please register by calling (309)776-3422 or email Bridget.Hinchee@illinois.gov.

Naturally Fit - Nature Hikes & Walks

(Most) Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. (Begins 6/8/16)

Enjoy the beauty of nature at Argyle Lake State Park while hiking the trails or walking the park road as an excellent way to stay (or get) fit. Distance will vary from 2-5 miles depending on participant preferences. Preregistration is required, so an email contact list of participants can be generated. Meet at the park visitor center for this program. Register by email Bridget.Hinchee@illinois.gov or call (309)776-3422.

Stargazing at the Park

Friday, June 10, 2016 (No Raindate)

9:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Friday, July 8, 2016 (Raindate: July 9)

9:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Join us for two evenings of stargazing with WIU astronomy instructor Tom Van Heuklon and hobby astronomist Larry Knicl. We will be observing Jupiter, Mars and Saturn; the Moon; many deep sky objects including star clusters, nebulae and galaxies, in addition to several constellations. These programs will be held at the park's Sunset shelter (1st left turn upon entering the park). For your comfort, bring a chair or blanket, insect repellent, and a flashlight. These programs may be postponed to the July raindate or canceled if weather conditions are bad or visibility is poor all three evenings. Please call (309)776-3422, in the event these programs must be postponed or canceled, a recording will be left.

2016 IDNR Free Fishing Days

June 17 - June 20, 2016

The Illinois Department of Natural resources allows people of any age to fish without a fishing license or stamp one four day weekend in June every year. The dates for Illinois' 2016 *Free Fishing Days* are Friday, June 17th - Monday, June 20th, 2016.

Youth Fishing Derby

Saturday, June 18th - 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

The Youth Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, June 18th at the area near the bait shop. Kids can bring their own poles or fishing poles will also be available for children to borrow. All children must be chaperoned by an adult. FREE hot dogs will be provided by the Shanty Shack II for all children who participate in the derby. Prizes & certificates will be awarded at 11:30 a.m. for 'Most Fish' and 'Largest

Fish' for five age categories (3 & under, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 & 13-15). Prizes provided courtesy of the IDNR and Friends of Argyle Lake State Park.

Reptiles and Amphibians of Illinois

Saturday, July 16, 2016 - 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Come join the park natural resources coordinator and learn about the many reptiles and amphibians found at the park and across Illinois. A few live specimens, which may include a nonvenomous snake, a box turtle, and frog(s), will be available for viewing (and optional handling). Children will receive handouts to learn more about these interesting creatures and experience many hands-on activities! Meet at the park's Pioneer shelter for this program.

Owls of Illinois

Saturday, August 13, 2016

7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Join us for a hootin' good time and learn about the owls that inhabit Argyle Lake State Park. Participants will learn about the owl's many unique hunting adaptations and its diet by dissecting an owl pellet. We will use a recording of various owl calls to encourage the owls to call back to us. Meet at the park's Prairieview shelter for this program.

Wildlife Prairie Park's

Amazing Animals Wildlife Program

Saturday, August 27, 2016

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Come learn about native Illinois wildlife (from all five animal groups) as naturalists from Wildlife Prairie Park share some interesting facts about several native Illinois animals that will be brought for viewing. This program will be held at the park's Pioneer shelter. For more information about this program, please call the park visitor center/office at (309)776-3422.

Friends of Argyle Lake State Park

Lake Exploration Day

Saturday, October 1, 2016 -

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come join the members of the Friends of Argyle foundation for a day of lake exploration! Many activities will be offered including lake education activities, fishing, kayaking, and pontoon boat rides. FOA will provide hot dogs and drinks and loaner fishing poles will be available. Meet at the lake near the bait shop for this event. Call the visitor center for specific program information (309)776-3422.

Fall Colors Nature Hike

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

As the breezes become a little brisk and the days begin to shorten, nature begins the process of preparing for the cold winter months ahead. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy nature and the magnificent colors of autumn throughout the park. We will meet at the visitor center at 10:00 a.m. and hike 1-2 miles on moderate terrain.

Atkinson McCord Cemetery Tour

Saturday, October 29, 2016 - 10 a.m. - Noon

Join park staff for a historical walking tour of the Atkinson/McCord cemetery located on the park's property. Participants should be able to walk $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on moderate terrain to access the cemetery. Meet at the park visitor center or at the trap range.

Woodland Wonders Nature Hike

Saturday, November 12, 2016

10 - 11:30 a.m.

Explore the wonders of nature and discuss how wildlife prepares for the cold winter months to come on this morning hike on one of Argyle's most popular trails. Hike will begin at 10 a.m. at the visitor center and conclude by noon.

Winter Woodland Wonders Nature Hike

Saturday, December 10, 2016 - 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Join the site interpreter as we explore the trails of the park in search of the many wonders of winter just waiting to be discovered. Hike topics may include how animals survive in winter, identifying tracks and other wildlife signs, winter tree ID and the mysteries of snow and snowflakes. Hike will begin at 10 a.m. at the park visitor center.

For more specific program information, to register, or to make special arrangements, please call the park visitor center at (309)776-3422 or email Bridget.Hinchee@illinois.gov.